

Provincie Massachusettensis.

[1]

George Town

On Arrowick Island Aug. 9th. 1717.

Annoque Regni Regis GEORGI I Magnæ Britanniæ, &c. Quarto.

A Conference of His Excellency the GOVERNOUR,
with the Sachems and Chief Men of the Eastern
Indians.

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HIS Excellency being Arrived here in His Majesty's Ship the Squirrel, the Indians sent a Message to him from Puddlestones-Island, (where they were assembled) Desiring to know when it would be his Excellency's pleasure that they should attend him.

His Excellency told them at Three a Clock this Afternoon, when he would order the Union Flagg to be displayed, at the Tent Erected near Mr. Watts his House, And ordered a British Flagg to be delivered to the Indians for them to wear when they came, in Token of their Subjection to His Majesty King GEORGE.

At the Time appointed, the Flagg being set up, the Indians forthwith came over, with the British Flagg in their headmost Canoo.

His Excellency being seated under a large Tent (Erected for the occasion.) Attended by Samuel Sewall Esq; Penn Townsend Esq; Andrew Belcher Esq; and Edmund Quincy Esq; of the Council of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay. And Samuel Penballow Esq; Mark Hunking Esq; John Wentworth Esq; Shadrack Walton Esq; and Richard Wybird Esq; of the Province of New-Hampshire:

A

and

and several other English Gentlemen. Eight Indian Sagamores and Chief Captains, Namely *Moxus*, *Bommazeen*, *Wanudagumboit*, *Wimurna*, and *Queguaroomanit* of *Kennebeck*. *Querenebuit* of *Ponobscut*. *Adeawando*, of *Pegwackit*, and *Sabbadis* of *Ammarescoggin*, Approached and made their Reverence to his Excellency, who was pleased to give them his Hand. And then directed that Capt. *John Gyles*, and Mr. *Samuel Jordan* Interpreters of the Indian Language should be Sworn to be faithful in that Service, and Judge *Sewall* administred to them an Oath accordingly. And his Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to the Sagamores, &c. which was deliberately Recited and Interpreted to them. And is as follows, *viz.*

Interpreter. Tell the Sachems, ‘ That notwithstanding the great Fatigue and Danger of this Expedition, yet to comply with my own Word, and their Desire, I am now come to see them, and am very glad to find so many of them in Health.

Tell them, ‘ That I find by the Records of His Majesty’s Government of *New-England*, which I have now the Honour to be Intrusted with, that there have been many Treaties between the English Government, and them, as there was occasion: And that the last Interview was at *Piscataqua* about four Years ago, and that then my very worthy Predecessor, Governor *DUDLEY* accepted their Submission, and Ratified all former Treaties and Agreements with them; and that he gave them all possible Assurances of Justice, Friendship, Protection, and fair Commerce and Dealing, on their Fidelity, Peace and Obedience to the Crown of Great Britain; and that I shall Build on that Foundation.

Tell them, ‘ That since that good Treaty was made, the Crown of Great Britain is happily Descended to His Most Excellent Majesty KING *GEORGE*, and for ever Established in His Royal Protestant Family, which GOD be Praised, are many. That it is in the Name and by the Command of KING *GEORGE*, that I am now Speaking to them, and that they may

may, and should Esteem it as an Instance of the King's great Favour, that I have so soon visited them.

Tell them, 'That there is a very good agreement between KING *GEORGE*, and His Neighbours, more especially the *French Nation*, who have a Just and Great Esteem for His Majesty, and are very desirous of His Friendship, and Peace with Him : And that His Majesty's Subjects at home and abroad account themselves, very happy in His Majesty's Government, for that, It is Wise, Just and Kind ; His Majesty consulting the common Welfare of His People, as to their Religion, Civil Liberties, Trade, and every other Thing.

Tell them, 'That this Great, Good and Wise Prince KING *GEORGE*, is their KING, as well as Ours, and that therefore we look upon them, and shall always Treat them as fellow Subjects ; and that they must likewise remember at all times, that they are KING *GEORGE*'s Subjects, under His Allegiance and Protection, and they must by no means hearken to any contrary Insinuations, that they will always find themselves safest under the Government of Great Britain.

Tell them, 'That KING *GEORGE*, and the *British Nation*, are Christians of the Reformed Protestant Religion ; That the great and only Rule of their Faith and Worship, and Life, is contained in the BIBLE, [the Governour holding one in his hand] here in this Book which is the Word of GOD (*Sachsen*) is contained our Holy Religion ; and we would gladly, have you of the same Religion with us, and therefore we have agreed, to be at the Charge of a Protestant Missionary among you, to instruct you, and this is the Gentleman [shewing Mr. Baxter to them] And I hope also in a little Time, to appoint a Schoolmaster among you to teach your Children, and that I hope and expect that they Treat this Protestant Missionary with all affection and respect, not only for the sake of the King's Government, but of his own Character, He being a Minister of Jesus Christ our only Lord and Saviour, who will Judge them and us at the last Day.

Tell

Tell them, ' That the English Settlements that have lately been made in these Eastern Parts, have been promoted partly on their accounts, and that they will find the benefit of them in having Trade brought so near them, besides the advantage of the Neighbourhood and Conversation of the English, to whom I have given strict Orders, that they be very just and kind to the Indians, upon all accounts, and therefore if at any time, they meet with any Oppression, Fraud, or unfair Dealing, from the English in any of their affairs; let them make their Complaint to any of my Officers here, and then I shall soon hear of it, and take speedy and effectual care to do them right. Or if upon any great occasion, they chuse to send any of their Body to me directly they shall be very welcome. I shall always be ready to protect and assist them, For I would have them look upon the English Government in New-England as their great and safe Shelter.

Tell them, ' That if they have any thing fit, or reasonable to ask of me, at this time, they shall be very welcome to lay it before me, and I shall give it all due consideration, and that I expect an Answer from them to what I have said.

Tell them, *Interpreter*, ' That in Token of my great sincerity and affection to them, and as an earnest of my future Justice and Kindness to them, I here give my Hand to their Sachems, and Chief Captains.

Then his Excellency taking an English, and an Indian Bible in his Hand, bid the Interpreters tell them that he gave them those Bibles, and left them with Mr. ~~Blister~~ their Minister, for their Instruction, whenever they desire to be Taught. The Minister will reside here, or hereabouts, and so will the Schoolmaster to Instruct their Children, when they have a mind to send them.

Then his Excellency Drank King GEORGE's Health to the chief Sagamore *Moxus*, which he, and all the rest Pledged.

Wiwurna stood up, and said he was appointed to speak in the Name of the rest.

Governour, Go on.

Wiwurna,

Wiwurna. We are very glad of this Opportunity, to see your Excellency, when the Sun shines so bright upon us ; and Hope the Angels in Heaven rejoice with us : We have been in Expectation of this favour ever since we received your Excellency's Letter in the Winter.

We are not now prepared to answer what your Excellency has said to us ; But shall wait on your Excellency again to Morrow.

Governour, It is well : At what time ?

Wiwurna, We desire his Excellency to Appoint the time.

Gov. Let them come about Nine a Clock, when they will see the Flag set up. I will give them an Ox for Dinner, and let them send some to Kill, and Dress it.

Wi. We are very thankful to your Excellency, for some of us have had little to eat for these two Days.

Then the Indians took leave and withdrew.

Aug. 10th. 1717.

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The Eight Sachems, and chief Captains that Attended Yesterday appeared again with some other Principal Indians accompanying them.

Wi. It is a great favour of GOD we have this Opportunity to wait on your Excellency, and we have our Answers ready.

Gov. Let them Speak.

Wi. We have done with the Treaty at Piscataqua ; and now proceed to a new one.

Gov. They Ratify, and Confirm former Treaties ?

Wi. Yes, We do.

His Excellency Ordered the Principal Articles of their Submission at Piscataqua, to be Read and Interpreted to them : And then Ask'd them, Whether they did remember & acknowledge them ?

And the Indians Answered, They did.

Wi. We have considered what his Excellency said Yesterday, and the first thing was for Love and Unity ; and we admire it exceedingly. And believe it pleases GOD. And hope your Excellency will endeavour it shall be so.

Gov.

Gov. I assure them of it, If they carry themselves suitably, with Duty and Allegiance to KING GEORGE.

Wi. We hope all hard thoughts will now be laid aside, between the English and Us, and that the Amity will be hearty.

Gov. Very well.

Wi. We are well pleas'd that his Excellency is Commander of New-England; and that altho' He is lately Arriv'd from England, He is Acquainted with the Affairs of New-England, and hope all things will be well.

Gov. Tell them if they behave themselves well, I shall use them kindly.

Wi. We have had the same Discourse from other Governours, as from your Excellency: and we have said the same, to them; Other Governours have said to us that we are under no other Government but our own.

Gov. How is that?

Wi. We Pray leave to Speak out. Your Excellency was pleased to say that we must be Obedient to KING GEORGE, which we shall if we like the Offers made us.

Gov. They must be Obedient to KING GEORGE, and all just Offers and Usage shall be given them.

Wi. We will be very Obedient to the KING, if we are not Molested in the Improvement of our Lands.

Gov. They shall not be Interrupted in the Improvement of their Lands; and the English must not be Molested by them in theirs.

Wi. We are pleased with the liberty your Excellency gives us, of making Mention of any wrong we have suffered.

Gov. They must Desist from ~~any~~ ^{any} Pretensions to Lands which the English own.

Wi. We Pray leave to go on in order with our Answer.

Gov. Let them go on.

Wi. If any wrong happens to us we will not avenge our selves, but apply to your Excellency for Redress. If any Foreign Indians come upon us, We shall Acquaint your Excellency, but hope by our Young Men to defend our selves.

Gov.

Gov. If they want help our Young Men shall Assist them also.

Wi. If any Quarrel happens & blood should be shed, We will not avenge our selves, but apply to your Excellency. We Return Thanks to your Excellency for your favour in offering us Succours, & if there should be any Disturbance we shall not Complain without real proof, nor for any frivolous matter.

Wi. This Place was formerly Settled and is now Settling at our request : And we now return Thanks that the English are come to Settle here, and will Imbrace them in our Bosoms that come to Settle on our Lands.

Gov. They must not call it their Land, for the English have bought it of them and their Ancestors.

Wi. We Pray leave to proceed in our Answer, and to talk that matter afterward. We Desire there may be no further Settlements made. We shan't be able to hold them all in our Bosoms, and to take care to Shelter them, if it be like to be bad Weather, and Mischief be Threatned.

As to the Ministers Instructing us :

All People have a love for their Ministers, and it would be strange if we should not love them, that come from GOD. And as to the Bibles your Excellency mentioned, We desire to be Excused on that Point: GOD has given us Teaching already, and if we should go from that, we should displease GOD. We are not capable to make any Judgment about Religion.

Your Excellency was not sensible how sick we were Yesterday to see the Man of War ashore, we were so faint we could not Speak out with strength, and we are now very glad the Ship is well.

We are very glad to wait on your Excellency, and to tell you, That we sent our Young Men early this Morning, to see if the Ship was well, and were very glad to hear she was.

Gov. Tell them, I accept their respects for His Majesty's Ship, and if the Ship can help them at any time, It shall be ready to do it.

Wi. We shall be very glad when we have concluded, that your Excellency may have good Winds, and Weather, and get safe down this River, and home.

Gov.

Gov. Tell them they must be sensible and satisfied that the English own this Land, and have Deeds that shew, and set forth their Purchase from their Ancestors. And we will not be molested in our Improvement of them, And they shall not be molested in the improvement of the Lands that beleng to them.

Tell them also, That Complaints are made to me that some of them have violently taken things from some of the English, as the Meat out of their Pots, and other things which is contrary to the Law of GOD and Man, and that they had forbid the English Planting on their own Lands, and that the Night before last they had killed some of the Young Cattel belonging to the English, (which indeed they had first informed of, and desired forgiveness) all which is contrary to their Articles.

Wi. We desire time to consult.

Gov. They may have it, but tell them I expect to see them again at Three a Clock, with a positive Answer about the Lands. And that they should always Muzzle their Dogs, when they come upon the English Lands where their Cattle are.

Wi. We are very thankful that your Excellency gives us leave to consider, and shall attend your Excellency at the time appointed with our Answers, for it is not a jesting matter we are now upon.

3 a Clock in the Afternoon.

Wi. We are willing to cut off our Lands as far as the Mills, and the Coasts to Pemaquid.

Gov. Tell them we desire only that is our own, and that we will have. We will not wrong them, but what is our own we will be Masters of.

Wi. It was said at Casco Treaty, that no more Forts should be made.

Gov. Tell them the Forts are not made for their hurt, and that I wonder they should speak against them, when they are for the security of both, we being all Subjects of King GEORGE. King GEORGE builds what Forts he pleases in his own Dominions,

minions, and has given me Power to do it here, and they are for their security as well as our's, and the French do the like, They build what Forts they please, and all Kings have that Power, and the Governours they appoint to do the same.

Wi. We can't understand how our Lands have been purchased, what has been Alienated was by our Gift.

His Excellency hereupon ordered a Deed of Sale of Lands on *Kennebeck River*, made by Six Indian Sagamores, to *Richard Wharton*, should be opened and exhibited to them, which was done and partly Read, and Interpreted to them.

Wi. As for the West side of *Kennebeck River* I have nothing to say, but am sure nothing has been Sold on the East side.

Gov. I expect their positive Answer and Compliance in this matter, that the English may be quiet in the Possession of the Lands they have purchased.

Wi. We don't know what to think of new Forts built.

Gov. I have spoke to that fully already, and told them they are for our mutual defence.

Wi. We should be pleased with King *GEORGE* if there was never a Fort in the Eastern Parts.

Gov. Tell them that wherever there is a new Settlement, I shall always order a Fort, if I think it proper, and that it is for the security of them and us, and so do the French. Are any People under the same Government afraid of being made too strong to keep out Enemies.

Wi. We are a little uneasy concerning these Lands, but are willing the English shall possess all they have done, excepting Forts.

Gov. Tell them we will not take an Inch of their Land : nor will we part with an Inch of our own.

Wi. We shall have Fishing and Fowling wherever we will ?

Gov. It is freely consented to, and they are assured of it.

Then the Indians rose up at once & withdrew, in a hasty abrupt manner without taking leave, and left behind them their English Colours, returning to their Head quarters at *Puddlestones-Island*.

And in the evening brought to His Excellency a Letter from *Sebastian Ralle* their Jesuit, Dated the 17th of Aug. 1717. Wherein he says, that *Governour Vaudreville* had written to them, that when he was lately in *France*, he had enquired of the King of *France*, whether he had in any Treaty given away the Indians Lands to the English, and that the French King told him, he had not, but was ready to succour the Indians, if their Lands were encroacht upon. Which his Excellency read and rejected as not worthy of his Regard. And the Indians return'd.

August 11th. 1717.

His Excellency went on board the *Squirrel Man of War*, and Ordered the Fore-top-sail to be loosed. Whereupon a Canoo with two *Indians* hastned on board, & acknowledged the rudenes & ill Manners they were guilty of Yesterday, and Pray'd that they might see his Excellency again.

His Excellency told them they should if they quitted their unreasonable Pretenfions to the English Lands, and Complied with what he had said, but not otherwise. Which they promising to do, His Excellency Appointing to meet them at Six a Clock. And the Indians Desired they might have the British Colours again; which were given to them, and they returned.

And at the time appointed the Sachems, and Principal Men came over with the British Colours, leaving behind them *Wiwurna*, because (as was said) he had behaved himself so improperly Yesterday.

And they Appointed *Querebennit* their Speaker.

Quer. We are very sorry for our rude Carriage Yesterday, and Pray it may be forgiven. As your Excellency said if any thing should happen amiss, It should be rectified.

Gov. 'Tis well.

Quer. It was agreed in the Articles of Peace, that the English should Settle, where their Predecessors had done; And we agree to those Articles & Confirm them. And Desire the English may Settle as far as ever they have done. And then Presented His Excellency a Belt of *Wampum*. And said we Desire to live in Peace.

Gov. Tell them, if they don't begin the Quarrel they shall have no occasion from us.

Quer. We desire that by the favour of GOD, we may always live in Peace and Unity.

Gov.

Gov. We Pray the same.

Quer. If any of our People should happen to be out in Cold and Stormy Weather, we desire the English to shelter them.

Gov. As long as they behave themselves well kindness shall be shewn them.

Quer. We shall always do the same for the English, and GOD Almighty hears us say it.

Gov. It is doing like Christians.

Quer. What I have said GOD Almighty hears, and presented another Belt of *Wampum*.

Gov. We say the same, what is done is done in the presence of GOD.

Gov. Tell them I hear more Complaints of some of them, that they have Interrupted the English in their Affairs, Taken the Meat out of their Pots, &c. I expect that there be no more such Miscarriages: If any of our People should do so to them they should be punish'd severly.

Quer. We Pray supplies may be sent us.

Gov. Tell them that the Traders here shall supply them.

Gov. Ask them, What they want most?

Quer. In the Winter all necessities are wanting, especially Provisions and Ammunition.

Gov. Tell them the Traders shall have order to supply them with what they want, at reasonable Rates.

Quer. We should be glad of one Trading House that may serve us all.

Gov. There shall be a place or 2, or 3, when I go home appointed, where they shall be supplied.

Quer. Mr. *Minot* is a good natur'd Man, and pleases us well.

Gov. There shall be here, and in other places supplies of Trade.

Quer. We Desire that *Inter. Peter Jordan* may be near us, to Represent to your Excellency any thing that may happen.

Gov. I Desire no better Man.

Quer. We should be glad of a Smith here, to mend our Guns.

Gov. Here is one that has work'd for you and Complains he is not paid for it.

Quer. As to that I don't know, but it is a long time before he will do our work, and then he won't do it well.

Gov. If you take care to pay for your work, I shall Endeavour you shall have a good Lock-Smith.

And tell them, that I thank them for their Present.

His Excellency Directed the following Instrument to be drawn up, and annexed to the Articles of their Submission, made at Piscataqua: which was Read, and Interpreted to them Paragraph by Paragraph by Interpreter *Jordan*, (Capt. *Gyles* having been ordered to his Command of the Fort at *Brunswick* Yesterday.)

And they all readily & without any Objection Consented to the whole.

John Carter Brown
Library

August 12th. 1717.

TWENTY of the Sachems, and Principal Men Sign'd & Seal'd & Delivered the said Instrument to his Excellency as their Act; being Witnessed by several English Gentlemen, and several of the Principal Young Men of the Indians. It is as follows, *viz.*

George Town on Arrowick Island in His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New-England, the 12th Day of August 1717. in the Fourth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord GEORGE, by the Grace of GOD of Great Britain, France & Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

WE the Subscribers being Sachems & Chief Men of the several Tribes of Indians belonging to Kennebeck, Penobscut, Pegwackit, Saco, and other the Eastern Parts of His Majesty's Province aforesaid, having had the several Articles of the foregoing Treaty distinctly Read & Interpreted to us, by a Sworn Interpreter, at this time, Do Approve of, Recognize, Ratify & Confirm all, and every the said Articles, (excepting only the Fourth & Fifth Articles, which relate to the Restraint, and Limitation of Trade & Commerce which is now otherwise managed.)

And whereas some rash & inconsiderate Persons amongst us, have molested some of our good fellow Subjects the English in the Possession of their Lands, and otherwise ill-Treated them, We do Disapprove & Condemn the same, and freely Consent that our English Friends shall Possess, Enjoy & Improve all the Lands which they have formerly Possessed, and all which they have obtained a Right & Title unto: Hoping it will prove of mutual & reciprocal Benefit & Advantage to them & us, that they Cohabit with us.

In Testimony, and Perpetual Memory whereof We have hereunto set our Hands & Seals, in behalf of our Selves, & of the several Tribes of the Indians, that have delegated us to appear for, and Represent them the Day & Year aforesaid.

This